International Weather and Crop Summary

August 29 - September 4, 2004

International Weather and Crop Highlights and Summaries provided by USDA/WAOB

HIGHLIGHTS

CANADA: On the Prairies, mostly dry, seasonably warmer weather brought some relief to maturing spring grains and oilseeds and enabled farmers to assess recent freeze damage.

MEXICO: Widespread rain returned to most of Mexico boosting soil moisture for filling summer crops and northern irrigation supplies.

EUROPE: In England, much-needed drier weather allowed winter and spring grain harvesting to resume, while elsewhere, planting was underway of next season's winter grain and oilseed crop.

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably warm and mostly dry weather favored fieldwork for early summer crop harvesting and winter wheat planting in Ukraine and Russia.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Mostly dry weather helped spring grain harvesting in Kazakstan, while showery weather slowed harvest activities in Russia.

SOUTH ASIA: Beneficial showers returned to southern India as seasonably drier weather enveloped much of the north.

AUSTRALIA: Timely showers in eastern Australia stabilized moisture supplies for vegetative to reproductive winter grains, while weather conditions remained favorable for winter grain development in western Australia.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers increased moisture supplies in key rice areas of Indochina and the Philippines.

EASTERN ASIA: .Showers in central China delayed cotton harvesting and raised concerns about quality.

BRAZIL: Warm, dry weather supported coffee harvesting, but further reduced moisture reserves in southern agricultural areas.

ARGENTINA: Unseasonable warmth spurred wheat development, with light to moderate rain boosting local moisture reserves.

August 2004

MONTHLY DATA FROM SELECTED FOREIGN CITIES
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER-NCEP-NWS-NOAA
****** DATA NOT AVAILABLE***

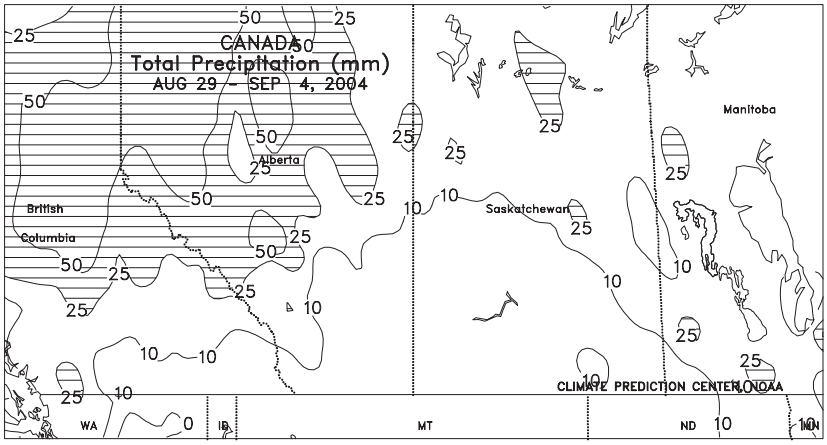
COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)						PRECIPITATION (MM)	
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
NORWAY	OSLO	21	12	30	4	17	2.4	140	58
SWEDEN	STOCKHOLM	23	16	30	10	19	***	40	***
FINLAN	HELSINKI	21	13	29	4	17	1.6	70	-12
UKINGD	ABERDEEN	18	12	25	2	15	0.9	91	30
	MANCHESTER	21	14	29	8	18	1.5	186	113
	CARDIFF	22	15	28	10	19	0.7	103	9
	LONDON	24	15	31	9	19	1.1	92	49
IRELAN	DUBLIN	20	12	24	6	16	0.6	133	65
ICELAN	REYKJAVIK	16	10	25	6	13	2.6	58	-10
DENMAR	COPENHAGEN	22	15	28	8	18	1.1	51	-3
LUXEMB	LUXEMBOURG	23	15	31	8	19	1.4	128	63
SWITZE	ZURICH	24	15	30	11	19	1.6	55	-64
	GENEVA	26	16	33	10	21	1.6	208	141
FRANCE	PARIS/ORLY	26	15	34	10	21	0.8	71	27
	STRASBOURG	26	15	33	10	21	1.6	77	19
	BOURGES	25	15	34	9	20	0.8	113	62
	BORDEAUX	27	17	35	10	22	1.1	76	17
	TOULOUSE	28	17	38	12	23	1.3	59	9
	MARSEILLE	30	20	33	15	25	1.1	28	-2
SPAIN	VALLADOLID	29	15	37	9	22	0.1	15	-1
	MADRID	31	17	39	11	24	-0.5	36	23
	SEVILLE	35	22	41	18	29	1.2	8	***
PORTUG	LISBON	28	19	32	17	23	1.2	17	12
GERMAN	HAMBURG	24	14	30	8	19	1.8	61	-12
	BERLIN	25	15	32	9	20	1.7	67	11
	DUSSELDORF	25	16	33	9	20	1.3	91	34
	LEIPZIG	25	15	30	8	20	1.9	71	13
	DRESDEN	25	15	31	8	20	1.6	38	-33
	STUTTGART	25	14	31	8	20	1.1	79	17
	NURNBERG	25	14	32	7	19	1.0	59	0
	AUGSBURG	25	13	31	9	19	0.7	59	-26
AUSTRI	VIENNA	27	15	32	9	21	0.6	29	-32
	INNSBRUCK	25	14	32	8	20	1.8	108	-9
CZECHR	PRAGUE	25	13	32	7	19	1.5	60	-1
POLAND	WARSAW	25	14	32	9	19	1.5	47	-9
	LODZ	25	14	33	6	20	1.6	66	11
	KATOWICE	24	13	32	6	19	0.8	53	-21
HUNGAR	BUDAPEST	28	16	33	12	22	0.9	29	-17
YUGOSL	BELGRADE	27	17	34	13	22	0.4	73	12
ROMANI	BUCHAREST	29	14	35	7	21	-0.8	52	-4
BULGAR	SOFIA	27	14	35	8	21	1.8	47	3
ITALY	MILAN	31	20	34	14	25	2.0	22	-67
	VERONA	31	19	34	13	25	1.5	39	-49
	VENICE	28	20	32	14	24	1.0	39	-28
	GENOA	27	22	30	16	25	-0.5	16	-48
	ROME	29	19	32	14	24	-0.2	20	-9
	NAPLES	30	20	32	16	25	0.0	5	-35
GREECE	THESSALONIKA	31	20	35	16	26	-0.1	15	-9
	LARISSA	33	18	37	13	25	-0.1	3	-17
	ATHENS	32	22	34	19	27	-0.7	0	-4
TURKEY	ISTANBUL	28	20	35	17	24	-0.2	50	36
	ANKARA	29	13	35	8	21	0.4	12	0
CYPRUS	LARNACA	33	22	35	19	27	-0.2	0	***
ESTONI	TALLINN	21	14	29	5	17	1.8	53	-24
RUSSIA	ST.PETERSBURG	22	15	28	9	18	1.7	86	12
LITHUA	KAUNAS	23	13	29	8	18	1.9	89	25
BELARU	MINSK	23	14	29	8	19	1.7	106	45
RUSSIA	KAZAN	25	14	34	7	19	2.2	18	-45
	MOSCOW	24	14	29	8	19	2.2	56	-24
	YEKATERINBURG	21	12	31	5	16	1.0	81	13
	OMSK	22	11	34	4	17	0.1	34	-22
KAZAKH	KUSTANAY	27	13	34	4	20	1.9	12	-24
RUSSIA	BARNAUL	23	11	34	5	17	-0.1	37	-17
	KHABAROVSK	24	14	30	10	19	-0.4	127	-21
	VLADIVOSTOK	24	18	30	12	21	1.1	97	-54
UKRAIN	KIEV	25	16	30	12	21	1.6	126	69
	LVOV	23	13	30	6	18	0.9	169	98
	KIROVOGRAD	25	15	32	9	20	0.0	73	19
	ODESSA	26	18	31	14	22	0.6	35	2
RUSSIA	SARATOV	27	17	35	11	22	2.9	10	-26

Based on Preliminary Reports

August 2004

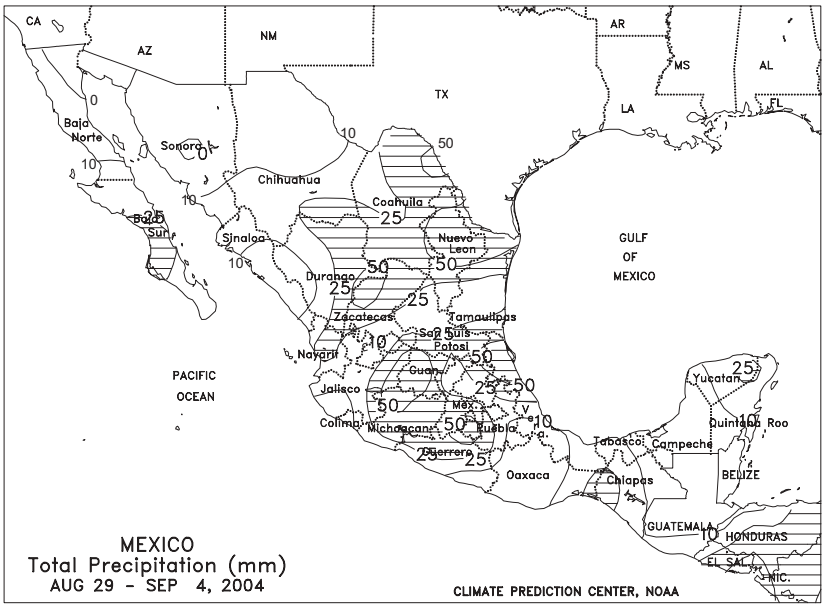
COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)						PRECIPITATION (MM)	
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
UKRAIN	KHARKOV	26	16	31	8	21	1.3	67	-8
RUSSIA	VOLGOGRAD	30	17	37	9	24	2.3	27	-1
	ASTRAKHAN	32	20	37	16	26	2.2	9	-13
	KRASNODAR	29	19	34	16	24	0.5	100	70
	ORENBURG	28	14	36	8	21	1.2	19	-9
KAZAKH	TSELINOGRAD	24	12	35	6	18	-0.7	87	53
	KARAGANDA	24	11	34	4	18	-0.4	29	4
GEORGI	TBILISI	32	21	36	18	26	1.8	28	-11
UZBEKI	TASHKENT	34	19	40	15	27	0.8	6	4
TURKME	ASHKHABAD	37	21	42	17	29	-0.3	0	-1
SYRIA	DAMASCUS	36	18	39	15	27	1.0	0	***
ISRAEL	JERUSALEM	29	19	32	17	24	1.1	0	***
PAKIST	KARACHI	32	26	38	25	29	0.3	7	-49
INDIA	AMRITSAR	34	23	40	19	28	-1.2	101	-90
	NEW DELHI	34	26	37	24	30	0.1	274	33
	AHMEDABAD	30	25	34	24	27	-1.0	420	171
	INDORE	27	22	32	21	25	-0.6	338	27
	CALCUTTA	33	27	35	25	30	0.2	357	49
	VERAVAL	29	26	31	24	27	-0.2	458	315
	BOMBAY	29	25	31	23	27	-0.3	895	403
	POONA	27	22	29	20	24	-0.3	334	210
	BEGAMPET	30	22	32	21	26	-0.1	66	-123
	VISHAKHAPATNAM	32	26	35	24	29	0.2	55	-82
	MADRAS	37	27	39	24	32	2.3	52	-95
	MANGALORE	29	23	32	21	26	0.1	721	89
HONGKO	HONG KONG INT	33	27	37	25	30	1.0	335	-46
N KORE	PYONGYANG	28	21	35	17	25	0.0	53	-142
S KORE	SEOUL	30	23	36	19	27	0.6	195	-179
JAPAN	SAPPORO	26	19	33	13	23	0.5	131	-8
	NAGOYA	32	24	36	22	28	0.6	116	-26
	TOKYO	31	24	37	19	28	0.5	82	-74
	YOKOHAMA	30	24	35	18	27	-0.4	94	-68
	KYOTO	33	24	36	20	28	-0.4	250	118
	OSAKA	33	25	36	22	29	0.5	109	4
THAILA	PHITSANULOK	33	25	35	23	29	0.3	333	79
	BANGKOK	33	26	35	24	30	0.7	230	14
MALAYS	KUALA LUMPUR	33	24	35	23	29	1.5	79	-67
VIETNA	HANOI	33	27	36	25	30	0.5	247	-50
CHINA	HARBIN	27	17	32	10	22	0.3	104	-4
	HAMI	32	17	39	8	25	-0.1	6	0
	LANCHOW	***	***	27	16	***	***	***	***
	BEIJING	29	21	33	16	25	0.1	52	-108
	TIENTSIN	29	21	34	16	25	-1.1	78	-74
	LHASA	22	11	25	10	17	1.6	110	-14
	KUNMING	26	18	29	16	22	2.2	162	-40
	CHENGCHOW	29	22	35	18	25	-0.5	118	10
	YEHCHANG	31	24	37	21	27	-0.4	221	42
	HANKOW	31	25	38	21	28	-0.8	200	92
	CHUNGKING	33	25	41	22	29	0.8	118	-9
	CHIHKIANG	31	23	37	19	27	-0.4	154	49
	WU HU	33	25	38	21	29	0.3	108	-12
	SHANGHAI	32	26	36	20	29	1.5	99	-46
	NANCHANG	33	26	38	24	29	0.4	186	62
	TAIPEI	33	27	35	25	30	0.5	546	235
	CANTON	34	26	38	25	30	1.4	232	15
	NANNING	34	25	38	24	29	0.7	78	-129
CANARY	LAS PALMAS	29	23	37	21	26	2.1	3	***
MOROCC	CASABLANCA	27	22	38	19	25	1.8	0	0
	MARRAKECH	37	22	44	20	30	1.7	0	-1
ALGERI	ALGER	34	21	44	17	27	2.2	1	-6
	BATNA	37	19	42	14	28	2.2	13	-3
TUNISI	TUNIS	34	23	42	17	29	1.2	5	-2
NIGER	NIAMEY	33	25	37	20	29	0.9	138	-53
MALI	TIMBUKTU	38	27	44	20	33	1.5	34	-45
	BAMAKO	31	22	34	18	26	0.6	285	-18
MAURIT	NOUAKCHOTT	34	27	44	25	31	2.4	4	-44
SENEGA	DAKAR	30	26	35	24	28	1.0	121	-95
CHAGOS	DIEGO GARCIA	29	24	30	24	27	-0.1	22	-100
LIBYA	TRIPOLI	36	24	44	20	30	3.6	0	***
	BENGHAZI	31	22	39	19	27	-0.1	0	***
EGYPT	CAIRO	34	24	37	20	29	0.7	0	***
	ASWAN	41	27	44	24	34	0.8	0	0
ETHIOP	ADDIS ABABA	***	***	19	12	***	***	***	***
KENYA	NAIROBI	24	11	27	8	18	0.3	1	-16
TANZAN	DAR ES SALAAM	30	18	32	15	24	0.5	0	-27
GABON	LIBREVILLE	28	24	29	23	26	1.5	23	16
TOGO	LOME	29	24	30	22	26	1.2	25	-1
BURKIN	OUAGADOUGOU	32	24	36	21	28	1.1	136	-105
COTE D	ABIDJAN	28	23	30	22	25	0.9	10	-31
MOZAMB	MAPUTO	***	***	31	9	***	***	2	-12
ZAMBIA	LUSAKA	26	11	31	8	18	-1.0	0	0
ZIMBAB	KADOMA	***	***	32	8	***	***	***	***
S AFRI	PRETORIA	24	9	30	4	17	1.7	0	-5
	JOHANNESBURG	21	8	25	-1	14	1.9	0	-5
	BETHAL	22	4	25	-4	13	1.3	0	-8
	DURBAN	24	14	31	8	19	1.1	4	-56
	CAPE TOWN	18	10	24	3	14	1.0	165	92
CANADA	TORONTO	24	15	30	9	20	-0.3	59	-21
	MONTREAL	24	15	29	9	19	-0.3	89	-4
	WINNIPEG	20	8	25	0	14	-4.2	130	52
	REGINA	21	8	30	-1	14	-3.6	70	26
	SASKATOON	21	8	31	0	15	-2.7	80	41
	LETHBRIDGE	25	9	33	5	17	-0.5	46	-1
	CALGARY	22	9	29	5	16	-0.1	58	-1
	EDMONTON	21	11	30	6	16	-0.7	54	-7
	VANCOUVER	24	15	30	13	19	1.7	73	34
MEXICO	GUADALAJARA	27	17	31	14	22	1.0	71	-140
	TLAXCALA	24	12	29	10	18	0.1	7	-153
	ORIZABA	26	17	28	14	22	1.7	132	-221
BERMUD	ST GEORGES	30	24	31	21	27	-0.7	302	171
BAHAMA	NASSAU	32	25	34	21	29	0.7	235	-12
CUBA	HAVANA	32	23	34	21	28	0.4	158	49
JAMAIC	KINGSTON	33	27	36	23	30	1.2	68	-10
P RICO	SAN JUAN	32	26	34	24	29	0.8	92	-41
GUADEL	RAIZET	31	24	32	23	28	0.2	200	31
MARTIN	LAMENTIN	31	26	34	22	29	1.9	97	-133
BARBAD	BRIDGETOWN	31	26	32	24	28	0.5	132	-14
TRINID	PORT OF SPAIN	32	24	35	22	28	1.1	151	-84
COLOMB	BOGOTA	***	***	18	6	***	***	***	***
VENEZU	CARACAS	32	26	34	25	29	1.9	30	-33
F GUIA	CAYENNE	32	22	33	21	27	0.9	77	-88
BRAZIL	FORTALEZA	30	25	31	24	27	0.2	6	-4
	RECIFE	29	23	31	20	26	-0.1	152	-3
	CAMPO GRANDE	33	19	39	9	26	2.5	0	-28
	FRANCA	26	15	31	9	21	0.3	0	-18
	RIO DE JANEIRO	26	18	34	12	22	0.3	14	-31
	LONDRINA	28	12	34	4	20	1.6	0	-62
	SANTA MARIA	21	11	30	1	16	0.2	95	-18
	TORRES	20	12	24	6	16	-3.0	31	-109
PERU	LIMA	18	16	20	15	17	0.1	11	9
BOLIVI	LA PAZ	13	-2	16	-7	5	-1.1	20	-6
CHILE	SANTIAGO	16	4	27	-3	10	0.8	44	-14
ARGENT	IGUAZU	25	12	32	2	18	0.1	10	-106
	FORMOSA	23	13	34	2	18	0.0	22	-41
	CERES	22	8	36	-3	15	1.0	0	-18
	CORDOBA	20	6	35	-3	13	0.4	0	-11
	RIO CUARTO	17	6	30	-1	12	0.5	16	-2
	ROSARIO	19	7	29	-3	13	1.1	13	-25
	BUENOS AIRES	17	8	25	-2	12	1.2	94	41
	SANTA ROSA	16	4	26	-2	10	0.4	225	199
	TRES ARROYOS	14	6	24	-2	10	0.7	58	16
MARSHA	MAJURO	30	27	31	24	28	0.7	343	45
NEW CA	NOUMEA	23	17	26	15	20	-0.1	51	-14
FIJI	NAUSORI	26	20	29	15	23	0.5	335	192
SAMOA	PAGO PAGO	30	25	31	23	28	1.0	68	-95
TAHITI	PAPEETE	29	22	29	18	25	0.5	16	-35
PNEWGU	PORT MORESBY	***	***	30	17	***	***	***	***
NZEALA	AUCKLAND	14	7	17	2	11	***	70	***
	WELLINGTON	12	7	16	1	9	***	114	***
AUSTRA	DARWIN	30	20	32	15	25	-1.4	4	-5
	BRISBANE	22	9	26	4	15	-0.3	26	-11
	PERTH	18	7	21	0	13	-0.8	158	41
	CEDUNA	18	8	30	2	13	0.5	141	108
	ADELAIDE	16	9	25	3	12	0.6	81	30
	MELBOURNE	15	7	22	0	11	0.4	73	28
	WAGGA	14	5	22	-1	10	0.6	89	37
	CANBERRA	14	3	21	-4	8	1.2	100	51
INDONE	SERANG	32	23	34	20	28	0.3	0	-71
PHILIP	MANILA	30	26	32	23	28	-0.1	412	-9

Based on Preliminary Reports



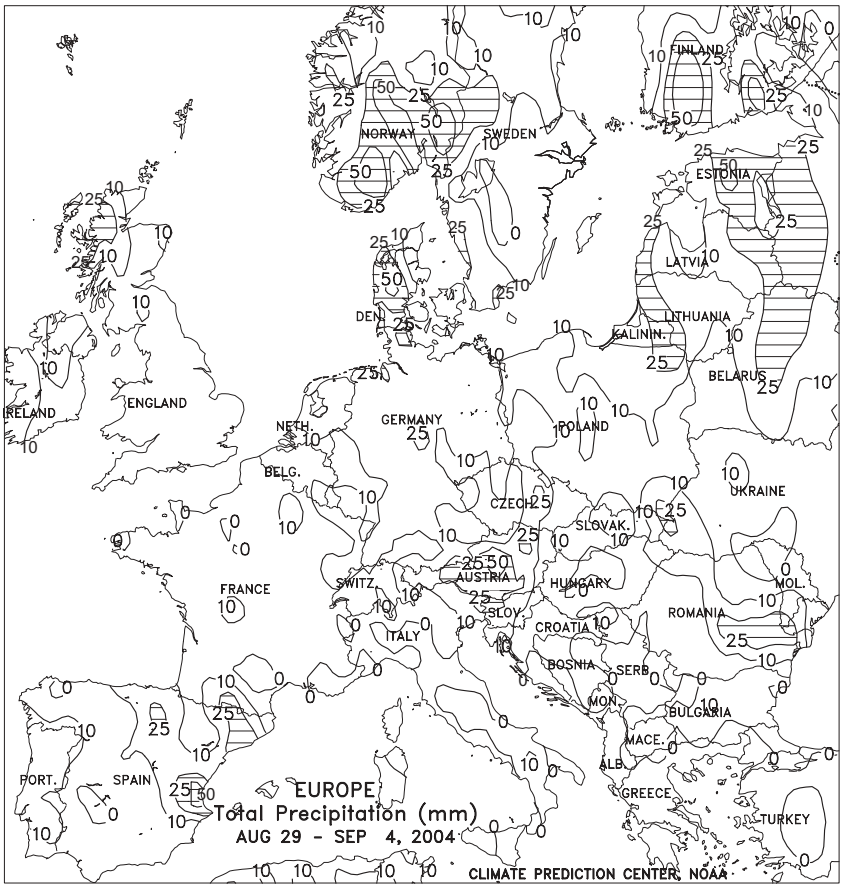
CANADA

Across the Prairies, warmer, drier weather (near normal temperatures; rainfall totaling less than 25 mm over most of the region) brought some relief to maturing spring grains and oilseeds after last week's round of unseasonably cool, rainy weather. The change in the weather pattern also helped farmers in Saskatchewan and Manitoba to more fully assess crop damage incurred from the early autumn freeze. On the morning of September 7, freezing temperatures occurred again in Saskatchewan, but were generally on schedule for those areas unaffected by the previous freeze (additional information will be provided in next week's *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*). In Alberta, wetter conditions (precipitation greater than 25 mm) prevailed in the Peace River Valley and in farmland near Edmonton, hampering autumn fieldwork. Provincial reports indicated that harvesting was underway at many locations, but was progressing at a much slower pace than in recent years. In eastern Canada, warmer- and drier-than-normal weather supported small grain and forage harvesting in most major agricultural districts, and helped to advance the development of summer crops that continued to lag the normal pace of development.



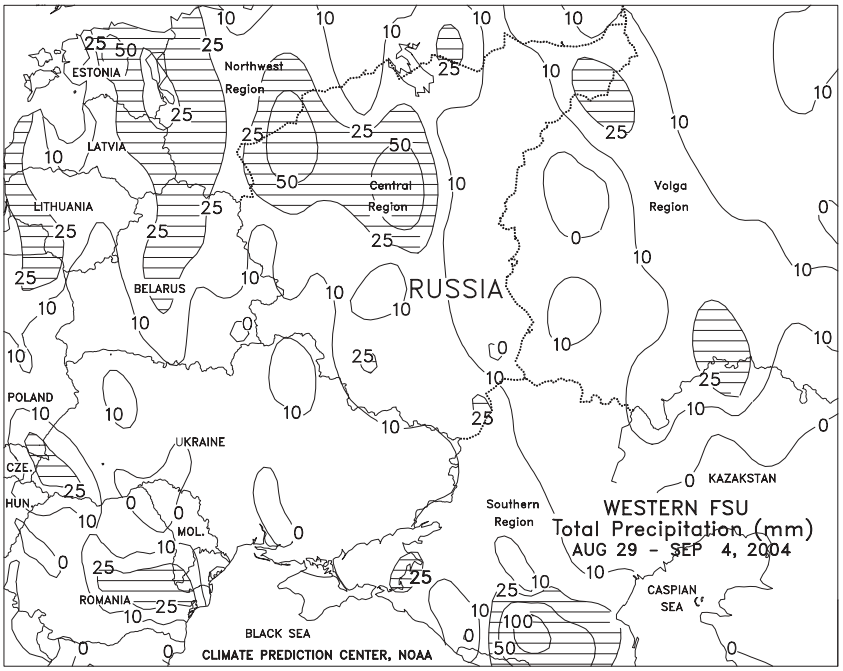
MEXICO

Widespread showers (25-100 mm or more) returned to most of Mexico, boosting soil moisture for sugarcane, oranges, coffee, and filling corn. Heavier showers (50-125 mm) fell across the northeast, boosting irrigation supplies but causing local flooding. Only portions of extreme northern and northwestern Mexico (near the U.S. border) received less than 15 mm. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal across the northern half of Mexico and 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across the southern half.



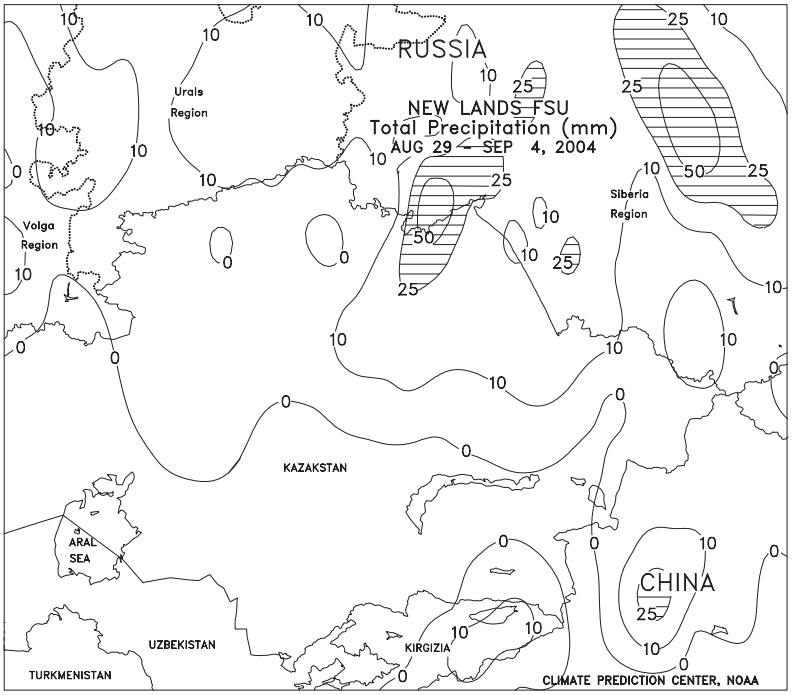
EUROPE

Across England, welcomed drier weather (less than 5 mm) allowed winter and spring grain harvesting to resume after several weeks of wet weather disrupted fieldwork and lowered crop quality. In Germany and Poland, light to moderate rain (10-30 mm) slowed late winter grain harvesting but favored late filling summer crops. Winter grain harvesting is nearing completion across most northern Europe, except for England. The planting of next season's winter grains and oilseeds is now underway across most of Europe and mostly dry weather favored fieldwork. Adequate soil moisture exists for filling summer crops in southeastern Europe. In the Iberian Peninsula, scattered light to moderate rain (10-25 mm) did not hamper early summer crop harvesting. Dry, warm weather aided summer crop harvesting across Italy. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across most of Europe.



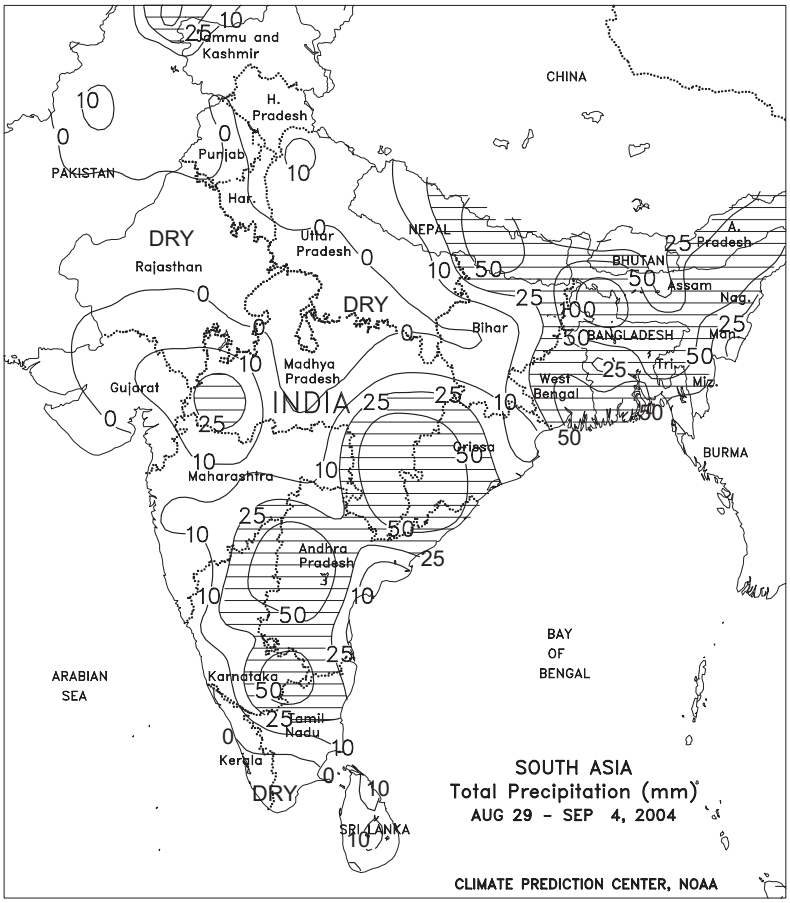
FSU-WESTERN

In Ukraine, warmer, drier weather prevailed across the country, improving conditions for summer crop maturation and early harvest activities for sugar beets and sunflowers. The drier weather also helped early winter wheat planting. In Russia, unseasonably warm, dry weather continued to extend across most of the Central and Volga Regions, helping small grain harvesting and winter grain planting. However, rain was needed to boost topsoil moisture for winter grain emergence. Farther south, drier weather prevailed over the western portion of the Southern Region, helping fieldwork for early summer crop harvesting and winter wheat planting. Reports from Russia as of August 31 indicated that 62 percent of the total grain crop, including corn, was harvested. In Belarus, light to moderate showers (5-25 mm or more) slowed late grain harvesting and early winter grain planting. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C above normal in Belarus and Ukraine, and 3 to 5 degrees C above normal in most of Russia.



FSU-NEW LANDS

In Russia, the combination of cool weather and light showers (7-25 mm or more) stretched from the Urals Region eastward through Siberia, causing some interruptions in spring grain harvest activities. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal in these areas. In Kazakstan, dry weather continued to prevail over major spring grain producing areas in the north central portion of the country, favoring crop maturation and rapid harvest progress. Weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal in Kazakstan. In cotton producing areas of Central Asia, cotton harvesting was just starting in the south. Near-normal temperatures and dry weather favored boll maturation throughout the region.

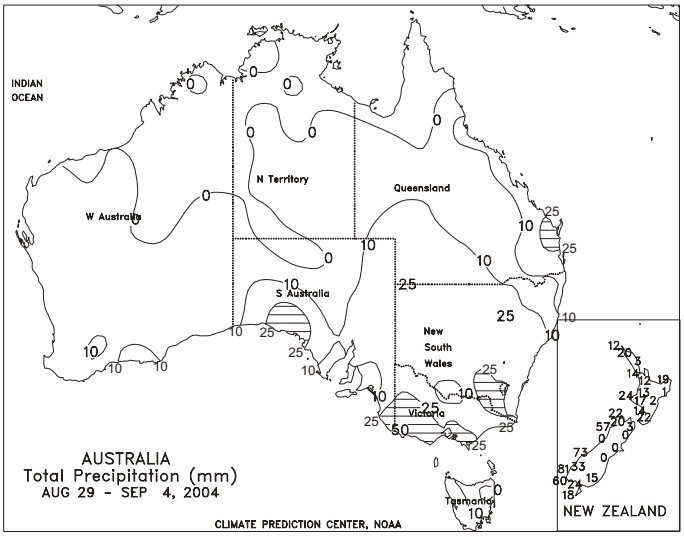


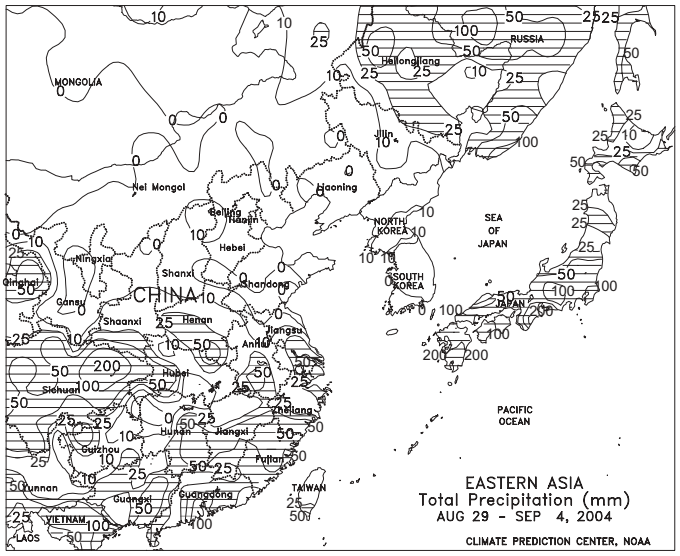
SOUTH ASIA

Warm, dry weather covered Pakistan and much of northwestern and central India, aiding maturation and dry down of cotton, rice, and other summer crops. The monsoon usually begins its seasonal withdrawal from the northwest in early September. However, the dryness in central India is a few weeks earlier than expected, and climatology would suggest that monsoon showers could briefly return to recently dry portions of central India (Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra). Showers (25-50 mm or more) continued in eastern India and Bangladesh, maintaining irrigation levels for rice cultivation. In addition, monsoon showers returned to the southern interior, increasing moisture for immature summer crops, especially cotton, and boosting moisture reserves for autumn-sown (rabi) crops. Historically, monsoon showers can linger over southern India through November, which would help farmers recover from this season's drier-than-normal start of the main growing season.

AUSTRALIA

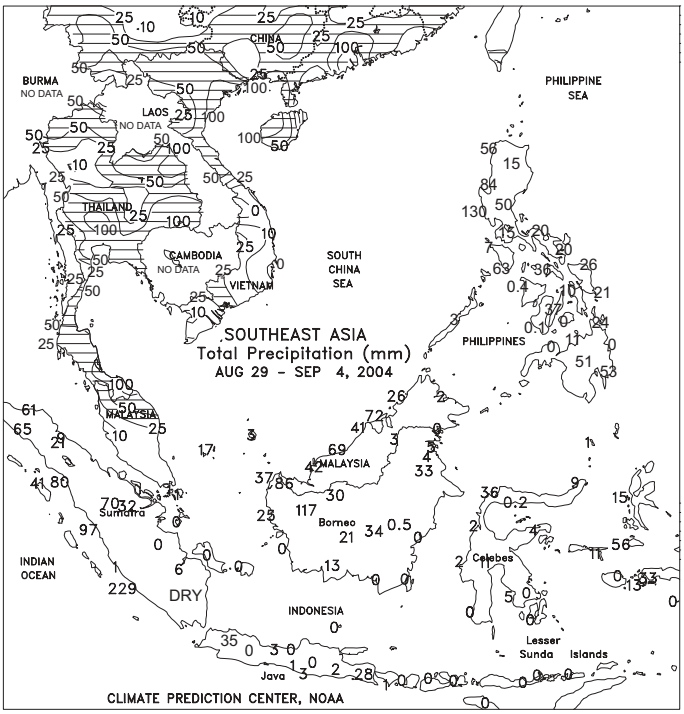
In Queensland and northern New South Wales, timely showers (3-17 mm or more) benefited vegetative to reproductive winter wheat and barley. The rainfall temporarily stabilized moisture supplies for winter grains, but more rain will be needed in upcoming weeks to maintain yield prospects because of persistent dryness in recent months. Farther south, scattered showers (6-45 mm) in southern New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia favored vegetative winter wheat and barley. Similarly, scattered showers (2-11 mm) maintained soil moisture in Western Australia, providing favorable conditions for winter grain development. Temperatures across Australia averaged near to slightly below normal (0-2 degrees C below normal), reducing evaporative losses and slowing the pace of crop development.





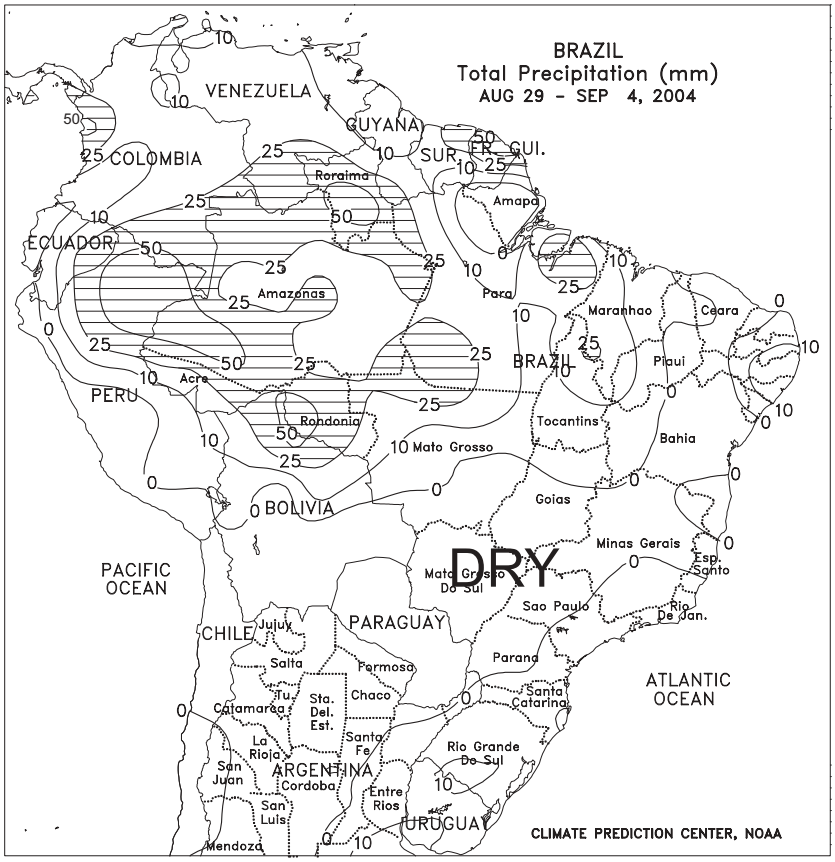
EASTERN ASIA

Showers (10-50 mm) continued in northern Manchuria, increasing moisture supplies for corn and soybeans, which are nearing maturation. Warm, mostly dry weather on the North China Plain favored cotton maturation, while in southern cotton areas, continued showers (25-75 mm) and cooler temperatures delayed harvesting and raised concerns about boll quality. Showers (25-100 mm) increased moisture supplies in the southeast, but slowed double-crop rice maturation. Typhoon Chaba made landfall in southern Japan, causing further flooding in rice areas from Kyushu to central Honshu. Typhoon Songda was approaching southern Japan and threatened to exacerbate already high water levels. Dry weather prevailed along the Korean Peninsula, favoring maturing rice.



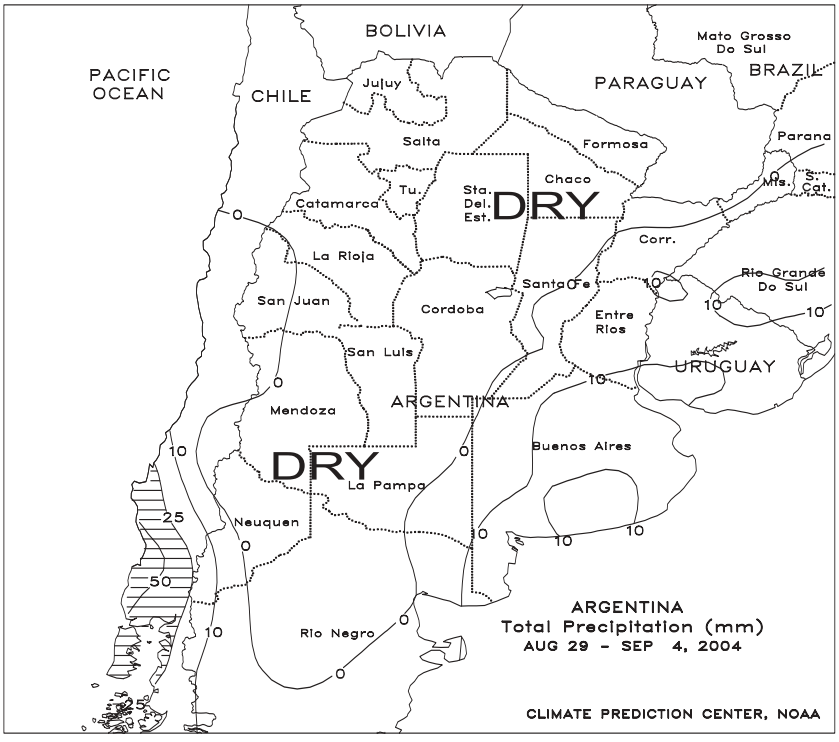
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Showers (50-100 mm) boosted moisture supplies for rice in northern Vietnam and eastern Thailand. Mostly sunny weather favored rice development in southern Vietnam. Moderate showers (25-50 mm) maintained moisture supplies for rice and corn in the Philippines. Mostly dry weather lowered moisture supplies for oil palm in peninsular Malaysia, while locally heavy showers increased moisture levels in Indonesian oil palm areas.



BRAZIL

Unseasonable warmth (temperatures averaging 2-5 degrees C or more above normal) and dryness promoted rapid coffee harvesting. According to independent analyst Safras e Mercado, coffee was 85 percent harvested as of August 30, compared with 94 percent last season. Harvesting was 80 percent complete in Minas Gerais, which accounts for nearly half of the total production, versus 92 percent at this point last season. The continuation of warm, dry weather also hastened maturation and dry down of winter wheat throughout the south. However, while initially beneficial for coffee harvesting and winter crop development, Brazil's drying trend has reduced moisture reserves for flowering of the next coffee crop. In addition, a seasonal increase in rainfall will be needed throughout major summer crop areas of the center-south before planting can commence. Fieldwork, including soybean planting, is usually in full swing by October.



ARGENTINA

Unseasonably warm weather (2-4 degrees C above normal in southern growing areas; as much as 10 degrees C above normal farther north) promoted rapid early development of winter wheat, with highs ranging from the lower 20s degrees C in southern Buenos Aires to the middle 30s in the more northerly growing areas of Cordoba and Santa Fe. According to the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture (SAGPyA), winter wheat planting was virtually complete, and the emerging crop was in generally good condition. Showers (5-10 mm or more) fell across La Pampa and Buenos Aires, but northern sections of the winter wheat belt remained dry.